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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/047,499	10/23/2001	Assaf Zeira	P-181-3 US	3946

23366 7590 02/27/2004

MORTON CHIRNOMAS & ASSOC.
11355 W. OLYMPIC BLVD.
SUITE 100
LOS ANGELES, CA 90064

EXAMINER

TRAN, DENISE

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2186

DATE MAILED: 02/27/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/047,499

Applicant(s)

ZEIRA ET AL.

Examiner

Denise Tran

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 May 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 10-17 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3,4 and 9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2 and 5-8 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 23 October 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-17 are presented for examination.
2. Claims 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, and 16 are objected to because of the following informalities: claim 10, line 3, "the content" should be --a content--; claim 10, line 7, "then" should be --than--; and claims 6, 8, 12, 14, and 16 have similar problems as discussed in claim 10, . Appropriate correction is required.
3. Claims 10-17 are allowable over the prior art of record.
4. Claims 2 and 5-8 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.
5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.
6. Claims 1, 3-4, and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Shagam, U.S. Patent No. 5,987,550.

As per claims 1, Shagam shows a computer system comprising:

At least two CPUs (e.g., fig.1 , els. 19a-b);

shared memory shared by said CPUs (e.g., fig. 1, el. 16a), at least one shared system resource accessible to said CPUs (e.g., fig. 1, el. 16b); and

said shared memory having therein a resource locking table (e.g., fig. 2, el. 24, 22), comprising memory elements, each of said memory elements design for being written to by only one of said at least two CPUs (e.g., col. 7, line 45 to col. 8, line 20), and each CPU having a corresponding memory element for each shared system resource to which it has access (e.g., col. 7, line 45 to col. 8, line 20), wherein each of said at least two CPUs is communicatively interconnected with said shared memory and said shared system resource, and said resource locking table is operative by each of said CPUs (e.g., figs. 1-2, els. 19a-b, 16a-b, 22, 24).

As per claims 3-4, wherein said memory element is a bit (e.g., col. 5, lines 35-38); wherein said memory element is a byte (i.e., address or identifier of processor has sequence of bits; e.g., col. 7, lines 50-55 or col. 13, lines 25-30).

As per claim 9, Shagam shows a method for locking a shared system resource for use by a single CPU in a multiprocessor, shared memory system (e.g., fig. 1, els. 19a-b and 16a; col. 7, lines 45 to col. 8, line 20), comprising providing a resource locking table in said shared memory which is operative by any CPU in the system (e.g., fig. 2, el. 24, 22), and by which any individual CPU can: a) update a memory element corresponding uniquely to the shared system resource and CPU (e.g., col. 8, lines 5-

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10); and b) read all memory elements corresponding to the shared system resources (e.g., col. 8, lines 30-35; lines 55-60).

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

a) Shagam (59875500) shows locking tables for a shared resource and a shared memory;

b) Barriuso et al. (5535365) shows locking shared memory locations in multiprocessing systems;

c) Fried et al. (6142676) shows locking processor identifications for controlling access to shared memory.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Denise Tran whose telephone number is (703) 305-9823. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday, Thursday and an alternated Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Matt Kim can be reached on (703) 305-3821. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9306 for central Official communications.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Deusepam

D.T.
February 22, 2004